

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested in view of the following amendments and remarks.

Drawings

The Examiner has suggested that Figure 4 should be designated by a legend such as -- Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g).

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's observations and has provided a replacement sheet for Figure 4 to address the Examiner's concerns.

Claim Disposition

Claims 1 – 26 are pending in the application. Claims 1 – 7, 9 – 15, and 17 – 24 have been rejected. Claims 8, 16, and 25 have been objected to. Claims 1, 9, 17 and 18 have been amended to incorporate the limitations of allowable claims 8, 16, and 25 respectively including the limitations of any intervening claims. Claims 7, 8, 15, 16, 24, and 26 have been cancelled. Claim 27, 28, and 29 are newly added to further clarify that which the inventor claims as his invention. No new matter is added. Support for the added claims may readily be found throughout the specification. Allowance of Claims 1 – 6, 9 – 14, 17 – 23, and 26 – 29 is respectfully requested.

Claim Objections

Claims 8, 16, and 25 have been objected to as being dependent upon rejected base claims, but would be allowable if rewritten including all the limitations of the base independent claim and any intervening claims.

Claim Rejections 35 U.S.C. §102(a)

Claims 1 – 4, 6, 9 – 12, 14, 17 – 21, and 23 have been rejected under §102(a) as allegedly being anticipated by Cueman U.S. Patent No. 5,059,800 hereinafter referred to as Cueman. Applicants respectfully traverse.

With regard to Claim 1, 9, 17, and 18 Applicants respectfully contend that the amendment renders the rejections moot. Claims 1, 9, 17, and 18 have been amended to incorporate the limitations of allowable claims 8, 16, and 25 respectively including the limitations of any intervening claims. Allowance of Claims 1 – 6, 9 – 14, 17 – 23, and 26 – 29 is respectfully requested.

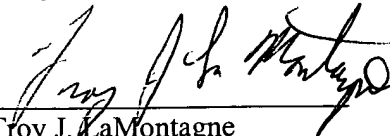
The arguments and amendments presented herein are made for the purposes of better defining the invention, rather than to overcome the rejections for patentability. The claims have not been amended to overcome the prior art and therefore, no presumption should attach that either the claims have been narrowed over those earlier presented, or that subject matter or equivalents thereof to which the Applicant is entitled has been surrendered. Allowance of the claims is respectfully requested in view of the above remarks. Moreover, no amendments as presented alter the scope of the claimed invention and therefore cannot necessitate a new grounds rejection.

It is believed that the foregoing remarks are fully responsive to the Office Action and that the claims herein should be allowable to the Applicant. In the event the Examiner has any queries regarding the instantly submitted response, the undersigned respectfully requests the courtesy of a telephone conference to discuss any matters in need of attention.

If there are additional charges with respect to this matter or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 06-1130.

Respectfully Submitted,

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By 

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